

HB 377 SAM Testimony 2-18-15 H Ed

House Education Committee

18-FEB-15	3:00 PM	137	HB 377	Revise laws related to K-12 accreditation standards	Debra Lamm (R) HD 60	Opposed
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Opponent

Concerns with the bill:

- Section 2, p. 2, line 17-21 – prohibiting membership in professional organizations will inhibit Montana education's competitive edge so because we will miss the professional learning on Best Practices. Would business handicap their employees by eliminating participation in their professional organization?
- Section 2, p. 2, line 27-30 – Creates more government to check on a highly qualified BPE.
- P. 4, line 10-17 – Pay for government to check on BPE – Where is the Fiscal note? – I served 14 years on the BPE as a volunteer – no pay!
- Section 4, p. 4, line 8-10 – BPE responsibility – Unconstitutional
- Section 5, p. 6 (line 16) to p. 7 (line 20) – formation of ELA and Math Committees – MT already did this work in 2000- 2014, except no one got paid. Line 25-30 on p. 7 – what is the fiscal note?

Basically this bill will grow government at the expense of taxpayers to check the functioning of a highly proficient BPE (raising constitutional issues), whom have had a leadership position (through the general supervision constitutional language) in the development of standards for one of the best public education systems in our nation.

It is not responsible to Montana citizens and taxpayers to support this bill.

The concepts in this bill will not improve education for the children of Montana.

You have heard from constituents in your community that understand our schools, and we urge your no vote on HB 377.